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## EXTRACTS, TRANSLATIONS, AND TITLES FROM THE NEWSPAPER "DER ERDOELARBEITER"

25, 30 Apr 49

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The newspaper "Der Erdölarbeiter" is political in nature, full of communist propaganda meant to influence the Austrian oil workers to detest the Allies and regard the USSR and her communist satellites as their true friends.

## List of Titles of Principal Articles in the Newspaper:

1. Proclamation for the 1st of May.  
Political articles on the occasion of the 1st of May.
2. The Truth about Zisterdorf: Sabotage committed by Wall Street and London City.  
Partial translation attached.
3. Around the Oil Well.  
Political and propaganda.
4. From the Nova to Moosbierbaum.  
Political and propaganda.
5. One Hour with the WIFO-Lobau.  
Translation attached.
6. The Fight for Peace.  
Propaganda article, showing the Soviet Union as the peace-loving nation, while the Western States and the USA are out to destroy the Soviet Union's plans for peace.
7. The World Listens to the Peace Proclamations of the Oil Workers.  
Political article, sympathizing with the aims of the Paris Peace

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Conference.

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## 8. Premium Payment for Exceeding Production Quota.

A premium payment of S 25000. - was paid by the Soviet Oil Administration to 2/3 of the workers of an oil enterprise for aiding materially to increase production, thereby making it possible to exceed the quarterly quota. Bigger premium payments yet were promised if production is raised further.

## 9. Sports.

## 10. Poland's Military Budget on Peace Standards.

Percentagewise the proposed Polish military budget is lower than it was in 1943/1935.

## 11. Oil Well Drilling to a Depth of 3000 Meters has been Started.

Translation attached.

## 12. The Oil Workers Speak

Political and propaganda.

## 13. I Read the Erdoelarbeiter, but...

Criticism by readers.

## 14. Unions and Work's Councils in a People's Democracy.

Political article aiming at Unions taking over the responsibilities from Work's Councils, thereby becoming equal to the unions in the Soviet Union.

## 15. Peace Demonstrations in Paris and Prague.

Political article.

## 16. Mayor Dr. Koerner on "Our Position toward the Soviet Union".

Dr. Koerner's aims are a good understanding with other nations.

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good relations with the Soviet Union, and striving for peace.

17. Social Insurance in Czechoslovakia.  
Comments on the 1948 Social Insurance Law in Czechoslovakia.
18. Air-conditioning Abolishes Professional Diseases.  
Complete translation was made. (attached)
19. Rice Cultivation in South-Moravia.  
Experimental rice cultivation to take place in South-Moravia.
20. American Protest against "Bloody" Justice in Greece.  
Report from the New York Daily Worker on a telegram sent by the CIO to the Greek President, protesting the death sentence for a newspaper publisher.

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The following paragraphs were taken from the article: "The Truth about Zistersdorf".

1. In the area of Oberlaa more than a hundred drillings were made; every one of these drillings for "natural gas" was discontinued at a certain depth due to the breaking in of water. Every expert knows what would be done in any other country after the first such instance. A thorough examination would have taken place, and after a recurrence the drilling permit would have been cancelled.

Those capitalist companies branded as negative the truly positive outcome of experimental drillings in the Zistersdorf oilfields. At first they claimed, "that there wasn't any oil at Zistersdorf". Later on the opinion voiced was, "Yes, there is a little bit of oil in Zistersdorf, but it does not pay to exploit it, because it is not sufficient to cover the costs". However, when the existence of oil in Zistersdorf could not be denied any longer, the oil was described as "poor quality oil, which can be of no use". In order to support these statements oil was imported from Rumania at a price far below that of the Zistersdorf oil. These unscrupulous dealings concerning Austrian people's property and labor did not prevent the Austrian government and the head of the Social Democratic Party from refusing the generous offer made by the Soviet Union in 1945, which promised Austria a 50% partnership in the oil fields. Thus it came about that foreign oil magnates bought the drilling rights from 1932 - 1938 for a mere pittance. With 95% of the shares in foreign hands Austrian influence was very small. By order of London City the Zistersdorf shares were sold to

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German companies in the year of occupation at 300 times their original cost. A good business deal at the cost of the Austrian economy.

2. Erwin Scharf writes in his booklet "I Must Not Keep Quiet":  
The Landesorganization Tirol of the Socialist Party, with a true socialist sense of responsibility, wrote a resolution to the Party Assembly in 1947, pointing out this solution:

"It is necessary to show determined proof to the Soviet Union that Austria intends to keep herself free from western capital in the same manner as she has resisted until now expansion from the east. This is one way to do it: Austria pledges to nationalize all plants and enterprises which are declared as German property by the allies, and she further pledges not to use any foreign capital for these nationalized plants in the future."

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"One Hour with the WIFO-Lobau".

(Note: Information on the location of underground tanks.)

If one is curious and wants to know what the central tank depot at Lobau really is like, he must go through channels and get a pass authorizing him to go to the area.

Led by a plant employee we walk past the office and laboratory and approach a broken-stone hill. On the right hand side and past the foot of the hill one can see many railroad tracks.

Climbing up the hill, we notice that the hill has a wide crest and is very long.

Scrutinizing the neighborhood, we see the Lobau refinery, with its distillation tower and tanks. Our guide tells us that a 57 km pipe-line connects the Lobau refinery with the oilfields in Zistersdorf directly, and continues past the central tank depot and then further underneath the Danube River to Nova-Schwechat. On the other side, along the length of the foot of the hill, we now see railroad tracks, and standing on them are railroad tank cars waiting to be filled.

Our curiosity prompts us to ask the guide where the tank depot is situated. We learn that we are standing directly over the large tanks, which are embedded in the hill. A great number of these tanks are situated there, one next to the other, and they constitute the central tank depot. We continue our walk, and find ourselves in front of a deep bomb-crater.

This bomb did a thorough job. Now the secret of the underground tank depot reveals itself. Part of one of these tanks lies

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opened up, and thus we can get an idea of its immense size. Despite a layer of earth measuring about three to four meters and a two-meter reinforced concrete cover, the bomb penetrated the tank and burned it up. Other bombs hit the hill too, but they only destroyed the layers of earth and some parts of the concrete covers.

We continue our walk and observe a wide canal opposite the narrow side of the hill. Surprised, we ask whether this is a branch of the Danube River, and we are told that this is the harbor basin for the tankers landing here, which is linked by a canal to the partly enlarged Danube-Oder Canal, thus allowing the tankers to go directly to the Danube.

Therefore the central tank depot can be directly supplied with crude oil by means of railroad tank cars, tankers, or the direct line from the oil-fields, and it can deliver by the same means finished products, e.g. gasoline, from the tanks.

In conclusion one can say that it is the object of the central tank depot to store all the crude oil which cannot be processed in the refinery and deliver it when needed, as well as to store the finished products from the refinery.

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"Oil Well Drilling to a Depth of 3000 Meters has been Started".

The well "Eichhorn 2", which we reported on before, will be continued as exploratory well to a depth of 3000 meters. An extremely complicated job, which finds all the workers interested in the job. One new development is that in the course of these drilling lignite layers were discovered. The layer in question is approximately 150 meters below the ground and consists of young and tar-containing lignite. So far the deepest well in Europe was drilled in Surakhany (USSR), reaching a depth of 3409 meters. At present drillings are taking place there, which are to be continued to 4500 meters.

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"Air-conditioning Abolishes Professional Diseases", (air-conditioning installations in the Ivanovo spinning-mills).

The spinning-mills of Ivanovo, the center of the Soviet textile industry, were recently equipped with modern air-conditioning, which automatically regulates the temperature and humidity in the plant halls.

The use of air-conditioning has been on the increase in the factories of the USSR. The climate most suitable for the workers has been produced in many foundries, machine-, tobacco-, and textile factories, and various other plants. These air-conditioning units not only provide constant temperature and humidity, but they also regulate the ventilation and clean the dust from the air in the work halls.

In plants developing very high temperatures the use of "water curtains" has been very successful. Foundry workers, e.g. are separated from the smelting furnace by this water curtain, and through it they observe the steps of production.

Commissions of the Health Department have made the observation that a substantial decrease in professional diseases has taken place since air-conditioning has been installed. Continuous and active work is carried on in the Soviet Union for the improvement and new construction in the line of air-conditioning. This work is carried out by the scientific research institutes and laboratories for the worker's protection, which are subordinated to the Central Committee of the Soviet Labor Unions.

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